

Union Calendar No. 297

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3013

[Report No. 103-538]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Women's Bureau
in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 6, 1993

Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. MEEK, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mrs. SCHROEDER, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. MORELLA, Mrs. UNSOELD, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. LLOYD, Mr. SLATTERY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. MALONEY, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. MINK, Ms. SNOWE, and Ms. MARGOLIES-MEZVINSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

JUNE 9, 1994

Additional sponsors: Mr. MONTGOMERY, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. DELLUMS, Mrs. KENNELLY, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. HARMAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HEFNER, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. PAYNE of Virginia, and Mr. PARKER

JUNE 9, 1994

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House
on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on August 6, 1993]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Women's Bureau in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CENTER FOR WOMEN VETERANS.**

4 *(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Chapter 3 of title 38, United*
5 *States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following*
6 *new section:*

7 **“§ 318. Center for Women Veterans**

8 *“(a) There is in the Department a Center for Women*
9 *Veterans. There is at the head of the Center a Director.*

10 *“(b) The Director shall be a noncareer appointee in*
11 *the Senior Executive Service. The Director shall be ap-*
12 *pointed for a term of six years.*

13 *“(c) The Director reports directly to the Secretary or*
14 *the Deputy Secretary concerning the activities of the Center.*

15 *“(d) The Director shall perform the following functions*
16 *with respect to veterans who are women:*

17 *“(1) Serve as principal adviser to the Secretary*
18 *on the adoption and implementation of policies and*
19 *programs affecting veterans who are women.*

20 *“(2) Make recommendations to the Secretary, the*
21 *Under Secretary for Health, the Under Secretary for*
22 *Benefits, and other Department officials for the estab-*

1 *ishment or improvement of programs in the Depart-*
2 *ment for which veterans who are women are eligible.*

3 *“(3) Promote the use of benefits authorized by*
4 *this title by veterans who are women and the conduct*
5 *of outreach activities to veterans who are women, in*
6 *conjunction with outreach activities carried out under*
7 *chapter 77 of this title.*

8 *“(4) Disseminate information and serve as a re-*
9 *source center for the exchange of information regard-*
10 *ing innovative and successful programs which im-*
11 *prove the services available to veterans who are*
12 *women.*

13 *“(5) Conduct and sponsor appropriate social*
14 *and demographic research on the needs of veterans*
15 *who are women and the extent to which programs au-*
16 *thorized under this title meet the needs of those veter-*
17 *ans, without regard to any law concerning the collec-*
18 *tion of information from the public.*

19 *“(6) Analyze and evaluate complaints made by*
20 *or on behalf of veterans who are women about the*
21 *adequacy and timeliness of services provided by the*
22 *Department and advise the appropriate official of the*
23 *Department of the results of such analysis or evalua-*
24 *tion.*

1 “(7) Consult with, and provide assistance and
2 information to, officials responsible for administering
3 Federal, State, local, and private programs that assist
4 veterans, to encourage those officials to adopt policies
5 which promote the use of those programs by veterans
6 who are women.

7 “(8) Advise the Secretary when laws or policies
8 have the effect of discouraging the use of benefits by
9 veterans who are women.

10 “(9) Publicize the results of medical research
11 which are of particular significance to veterans who
12 are women.

13 “(10) Advise the Secretary and other appro-
14 priate officials on the effectiveness of the Department’s
15 efforts to accomplish the goals of section 492B of the
16 Public Health Service Act (relating to the inclusion
17 of women and minorities in clinical research) and of
18 particular health conditions affecting womens’ health
19 which should be studied as part of the Department’s
20 medical research program and promote cooperation
21 between the Department and other sponsors of medi-
22 cal research of potential benefit to veterans who are
23 women.

1 “(11) Provide support and administrative serv-
2 ices to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans
3 established under section 542 of this title.

4 “(12) Perform such other duties consistent with
5 this section as the Secretary shall prescribe.

6 “(e) The Secretary shall ensure that the Director is fur-
7 nished sufficient resources to enable the Director to carry
8 out the functions of the Center in a timely manner.

9 “(f) The Secretary shall include in documents submit-
10 ted to Congress by the Secretary in support of the Presi-
11 dent’s budget for each fiscal year—

12 “(1) detailed information on the budget for the
13 Center;

14 “(2) the Secretary’s opinion as to whether the re-
15 sources (including the number of employees) proposed
16 in the budget for that fiscal year are adequate to en-
17 able the Center to comply with its statutory and regu-
18 latory duties; and

19 “(3) a report on the activities and significant
20 accomplishments of the Center during the preceding
21 fiscal year.”.

22 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of such chap-
23 ter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

 “318. Center for Women Veterans.”.

24 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 317(c) of
25 such title is amended—

1 (1) *by striking out “who is—” and inserting in*
2 *lieu thereof “who is any of the following:”;*

3 (2) *by striking out the semicolon at the end of*
4 *paragraphs (1) through (4) and inserting in lieu*
5 *thereof a period;*

6 (3) *by striking out “; or” at the end of para-*
7 *graph (5) and inserting in lieu thereof a period; and*

8 (4) *by striking out paragraph (6).*

9 **SEC. 2. MEETINGS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN**

10 **VETERANS.**

11 *Section 542(a) of title 38, United States Code, is*
12 *amended by adding at the end the following:*

13 *“(4) The Committee shall meet as often as the Sec-*
14 *retary considers necessary or appropriate, but not less often*
15 *than twice each fiscal year.”.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend title
38, United States Code, to establish a Center for Women
Veterans in the Department of Veterans Affairs.”.

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